

John was the first in his family to graduate from college, and ever since then, he has continued to work in academia through his leadership at the University of Maine, Bradley University, Texas Christian University, Tulane University, and most recently, the University of Central Florida.

Since he assumed his role in 1992, UCF has seen its enrollment more than triple to over 66,000 students. It has also tripled the number of minority students at UCF, who currently make up 46 percent of the UCF student body.

As the current longest serving president in Florida's State University System, John has been involved in UCF receiving \$2.23 billion in research funding, creating 71 new degree programs, and launching more than \$1 billion in new construction, including more than 100 new buildings. Among them is the UCF College of Medicine that anchors the Medical City at Lake Nona.

His many awards and honors include being recognized as one of America's 10 most innovative college presidents by Washington Monthly magazine and twice being ranked No. 1 on Orlando Magazine's list of Orlando's 50 Most Powerful People.

Most impressively, John, a first-generation college student, has awarded more than 270,000 degrees, which translates to about 83 percent of all degrees conferred in UCF history. John awarded more degrees within the State University System of Florida than any other university president in Sunshine State history.

In his inaugural presidential address in 1992, John said, "UCF is an institution founded on partnership in a city that dares to dream. We are a university founded on the principles of access to high quality education at affordable cost, of research directed to public need, and of service to the people of our state, region and nation. I fervently believe that UCF will become America's leading metropolitan university."

His dedication to his students, university, and community will be remembered by the large UCF Knight family and the people of central Florida.

I am proud to call John a friend, and we will all miss his leadership at UCF. I wish him well on his retirement.●

#### 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KAPPA ALPHA PSI TAMPA ALUMNI CHAPTER

● Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I would like to recognize and celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Tampa alumni chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. For 90 years, the members of the Tampa alumni chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi have provided leadership, dedication, and service to Tampa. Through their community initiatives and fundraisers, they have helped thousands in their community. The Tampa alumni chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi was founded in 1928 on the belief of service to one another and the community, during a time when African Americans faced

legal and institutional discrimination both on and off college campuses. The current members of the alumni chapter have dedicated their time to providing leadership and service in their community, most recently organizing a Martin Luther King, Jr., day of service focused on disaster preparedness.

The past and present members of the Tampa Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity should inspire everyone to make their own communities better. One quality members of Kappa Alpha Psi strive for is excellence in everything they do, and over the past 90 years, the members of the Tampa alumni chapter have provided excellent leadership and service to their community in Tampa. The celebration and reflection of 90 years of service shows how far we have come in the United States and how much work is still left to do.●

#### 350TH ANNIVERSARY OF SALT SALETTE MARIE, MICHIGAN

● Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 350th anniversary of the city of Sault Sainte Marie, MI. As one of the oldest cities in the State of Michigan, as well as the United States, Sault Ste. Marie is endowed with a rich history, dynamic present, and bright future.

As early as 800 A.D., the Chippewa Indians, originally referred to as Ojibway, inhabited the area now known as Sault Ste. Marie. The Chippewa Indians called the region "Bahweting," or "the Gathering Place," due to the wealth of fish and fur found along the St. Marys River, the only water connection between Lake Superior and the other Great Lakes.

In the early 1600s, British, French, and Jesuit missionaries ventured to the territory, including Fr. Jaques Marquette. In 1668, Fr. Jaques Marquette renamed the settlement Sault Ste. Marie in honor of the Virgin Mary, establishing the first permanent settlement in the Great Lakes region. Due to the abundant natural resources and strategic location of the St. Marys River, the French and British repeatedly fought over the area, as well as the right to trade with the Chippewa and Ottawa Tribes. Although Fr. Jaques Marquette built the first permanent structure, John Johnson is considered to be the first permanent settler in Sault Ste. Marie. In the late 1790s, Johnson and his family moved to the region to open a fur trade operation along the St. Marys River. In 1797, the Northwest Fur Company constructed a navigation lock approximately 38-feet long on the Canadian side of the St. Marys River. Unfortunately, the lock was destroyed in the War of 1812.

In 1820, the Chippewa Indians signed the Treaty of the Sault that turned control of Sault Ste. Marie to the United States. In 1852, almost three decades later, the State of Michigan contracted Fairbanks Scale Company

to build a lock designed to permit waterborne commerce between Lake Superior and the other Great Lakes. The Fairbanks Scale Company constructed a system of two locks, each 350 feet long, called the State Lock. The State of Michigan operated and maintained the locks for more than a decade, but as the shipping traffic and vessel sizes increased, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers assumed ownership of the facility and constructed a larger lock, more than 515 feet long, named the Weitzel Lock. Since then, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers oversaw the construction and replacement of five locks, later known as the Soo Locks, in order to meet the growing demand for larger vessels: First Poe Lock, Davis Lock, Sabin Lock, MacArthur Lock, and Second Poe Lock. Over the past 350 years, Sault Ste. Marie transformed from a base for fisherman and fur traders to an international gateway for community development and economic growth.

Today, Sault Ste. Marie is home to more than 13,000 residents who enjoy the beautiful parks, historic downtown, and safe neighborhoods. Situated in Chippewa County, the city provides a number of recreational activities designed to enhance the quality of life for residents, ranging from the Sault Seal Recreation Area and Voyageur Island, to the River of History Museum and Sherman Park. Sault Ste. Marie is also active in the preservation and promotion of historic landmarks, including the Historic Locks Park Walkway, the John Johnston House, and the Kemp Coal Dock Office. Recognized as "the place where Michigan was born," Sault Ste. Marie captivates the attention of residents and visitors from around the globe.

I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the rich history, significant contributions, and outstanding achievements of the city of Sault Sainte Marie. I wish the city continued growth and prosperity in the years ahead.●

#### TRIBUTE TO LOGAN AUKES

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Logan Aukes, an intern in my Sioux Falls, SD, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Logan is a graduate of Sioux Falls Christian High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, he is attending Dordt College, where he is majoring in business administration. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Logan for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JOSH BROWN

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Josh Brown, an intern in my